

CONFIDENTIAL.]

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REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE
Week ending the 23rd March 1895.

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		Nil.	

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
BENGALI.		CALCUTTA.			
	<i>Tri-monthly.</i>				
1	"Abodh Bodhini" ...	Calcutta ...	About 677		
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	" 5,000	15th March 1895.	
2	"Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	" 20,000	16th ditto.	
3	"Hitavadi" ...	Ditto ...	" 4,000	15th ditto.	
4	"Jnándáyiká" ...	Ditto ...	.....	
5	"Mihir" ...	Ditto ...	.....	15th ditto.	
6	"Sahachar" ...	Ditto ...	" 500	13th ditto.	
7	"Samay" ...	Ditto ...	" 4,000	15th ditto.	
8	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto ...	" 3,000	16th ditto.	
9	"Som Prakash" ...	Ditto ...	" 800		
10	"Sudhakar" ...	Ditto ...	" 3,000	15th ditto.	
	<i>Daily.</i>				
1	"Banga Vidya Prakashika" ...	Ditto ...	" 200	18th ditto.	
2	"Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika" ...	Ditto ...	" 200	18th to 20th March 1895.	
3	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto ...	" 500	16th and 18th to 21st March 1895.	
4	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	" 200		
5	"Sulabh Dainik" ...	Ditto ...	" 1,000		
	HINDI.				
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Ditto ...	" 800	14th March 1895.	
2	"Hindi Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	" 9,000	18th ditto.	
3	"Uchit Vakta" ...	Ditto ...	.....	9th ditto.	
	PERSIAN.				
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Hublul Mateen" ...	Ditto ...	.....	.....	Defunct.
	URDU.				
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide" ...	Ditto ...	" 400	14th ditto.	
2	"General and Gauhariast" ...	Ditto ...	" 300	16th ditto.	
	BENGALI.	BURDWAN DIVISION.			
	<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Basana" ...	Chinsura ...	400		
2	"Purnima" ...	Hooghly ...	500		
	<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	" 500	16th ditto.	
2	"Ulubaria Darpan" ...	Ulubaria ...	" 298		
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	350 to 400	12th ditto.	
2	"Chinsura Vartavaha" ...	Chinsura ...	500	17th ditto.	
3	"Darsak" ...	Ditto ...	.....	17th ditto.	
4	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly ...	754	15th ditto.	
	BENGALI.	PRESIDENCY DIVISION.			
	<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Ghosak" ...	Khulna ...	350		
2	"Sat Sanga" ...	Murshidabad ...	200		
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Hitaishi" ...	Murshidabad ...	280	13th ditto.	
2	"Murshidabad Patrika" ...	Ditto ...	350		
3	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi" ...	Berhampore ...	200	8th ditto.	
4	"Pratikar" ...	Ditto ...	608	15th ditto.	
5	"Samaj-o-Sahitya" ...	Garibpur, Nadia ...	1,000		

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
<p>URIYA. ORISSA DIVISION.</p> <p><i>Monthly.</i></p> <p>1 "Shikshabandhu" ... Cuttack 3</p> <p>2 "Utkalprabha" ... Mayurbhunj ...</p> <p><i>Weekly.</i></p> <p>1 "Samvad Vahika" ... Balasore ... 190</p> <p>2 "Uriya and Navasamvad" ... Ditto ... 309</p> <p>3 "Utkal Dipika" ... Cuttack ... 412</p> <p>4 "Sambalpur Patriot" ... Bamra in the Central Provinces.</p> <p>HINDI. PATNA DIVISION.</p> <p><i>Monthly.</i></p> <p>1 "Bihar Bandhu" ... Bankipur ... 500</p> <p><i>Weekly.</i></p> <p>1 "Aryavarta" ... Dinapur ... 1,000</p> <p>URDU.</p> <p><i>Weekly.</i></p> <p>1 "Akhbar-i-Al Punch" ... Bankipur ... 500 14th March 1895.</p> <p>2 "Gaya Punch" ... Gaya ... 400 11th ditto.</p> <p>3 "Mehre Monawar" ... Muzaffarpur ... 150</p> <p>BENGALI. RAJSHAHI DIVISION.</p> <p><i>Weekly.</i></p> <p>1 "Bagura Darpan" ... Bogra 15th ditto.</p> <p>2 "Hindu Ranjika" ... Boalia, Rajshahi ... 283</p> <p>3 "Rangpur Dikprakash" ... Kakina, Rangpur ... 300</p> <p>HINDI.</p> <p><i>Monthly.</i></p> <p>1 "Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika." ... Darjeeling ... 150</p> <p>BENGALI. DACCA DIVISION.</p> <p><i>Fortnightly.</i></p> <p>1 "Kasipur Nivasi" ... Kasipur, Barisal ... 280 12th ditto.</p> <p>2 "Bangabandhu" ... Dacca ... 250</p> <p><i>Weekly.</i></p> <p>1 "Charu Mihir" ... Mymensingh ... 900 12th ditto.</p> <p>2 "Dacca Prakash" ... Dacca ... 450 17th ditto.</p> <p>3 "Saraswat Patra" ... Ditto ... 250 16th ditto.</p> <p>4 "Vikrampur" ... Lauhajangha, Dacca ... 500 14th ditto.</p> <p>5 "Bharatvasi" ... Dacca ... 500</p> <p>ENGLISH AND BENGALI.</p> <p><i>Weekly.</i></p> <p>1 "Dacca Gazette" ... Ditto ... 500 18th ditto.</p> <p>BENGALI.</p> <p><i>Weekly.</i></p> <p>1 "Sansodhini" ... Chittagong ... 120 15th ditto.</p> <p>BENGALI. ASSAM.</p> <p><i>Fortnightly.</i></p> <p>1 "Paridarshak" ... Sylhet ... 240 1st fortnight of Falgun 1901, B.S.</p> <p>2 "Srihattavasi" ... Ditto ... * 160</p> <p><i>Weekly.</i></p> <p>1 "Assam" ... Gauhati ... 700*</p>					
					Only six copies have been issued since the paper was received in January 1894. Some 200 copies of each issue are said to have been circulated, but no subscribers have been registered.
					This paper is said to have some circulation in the Division, but the number of subscribers could not be ascertained.
					It is said that 550 copies of the paper are printed each month. Out of this number 150 copies are distributed among the subscribers and the rest sold to the public at three pies per copy.
					* Entries based on information supplied by the Deputy Postmaster-General, Assam.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide* of the 14th March says that the other day the Armenian community of Calcutta appeared in a body before the Chief Presidency Magistrate and requested him to put his signature and his seal on their application to several European Powers, as well as to the United States Government, urging them to help the Christian population of Armenia in their efforts to throw off the Turkish yoke. This news has thrown the Musalmans of India into a fever of excitement. Whether or not the Chief Magistrate complied with the request made by the Armenians is not yet known. But if he has done so, Musalmans will think that the British Government's policy is one of hostility to the religion of its Musalman subjects, or it would not allow such a big officer of its own to accept the lead in a movement which is hostile to the head of Islam. The fact of Great Britain having combined with Russia to press Turkey to cede the Armenian provinces has made Musalmans still more uneasy.

The Central Muhammadan Association of Calcutta is of opinion that no outrages took place in Armenia, and that the so-called outrages are mere creations of the brain of certain selfish and irresponsible writers. The other Islamic Associations of India ought to let the Government know that any interference in Armenian affairs on the part of Great Britain will be a cause of dissatisfaction to the Musalmans of India.

2. The same paper says that the statement made by the Cairo correspondent of the *Times*, that the Khedive, relying upon the promise made by France to lend him military assistance in any difficulty, is trying to instigate the Egyptians against the European mercenaries, is entirely false. The Egyptians themselves do not like to see their mother-country trodden over by any foreign nation. They are all ready to rise and are only watching for a pretext. The time is not far off when the calm, political atmosphere of Egypt will be violently disturbed by a war cyclone, which will disturb also the whole European continent. The sooner therefore the European powers break off all connection with Egypt the better.

3. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 20th March says that considering that such authorities as Sir Auckland Colvin and Sir David Barbour oppose the proposed expedition against Chitral, that even the *Pioneer* protests against it, and that Umra Khan, who has designs against Chitral, is a man of extraordinary prowess, talent, influence and resources, Government should not send an expedition against that place at this time of financial difficulty. If all the Chiefs of that part join Umra Khan, the situation will become perilous, and even the fourteen thousand troops whom it is proposed to send on that expedition will fail to effect anything.

The suspicion has now become strong in the public mind that it is only with a view to ensure their own promotion and reward that military men favour such expeditions. Nor is this an unreasonable suspicion. Is not General Turner praising the prowess of British soldiers in connection with the Waziristan expedition simply for the sake of rewards?

It matters little to the English Government who becomes the Mehtar of Chitral, if only the British garrison there is left unmolested. It is also expedient to convert a man like Umra Khan into a friend. The more difficulties increase on the frontier the worse will it be for India.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

4. The *Sansodhini* of the 15th March says that the inefficiency of the local police and the apathy of the local Magistrates is the cause of the prevailing lawlessness at Chittagong. Jan Ali was wounded, but no policeman having been near the murderer was able to make his escape. Jan Ali lived for an hour and a half or more after he was wounded. But during all that time no Magistrate came to take his dying declaration.

DARUSSALTANAT
AND URDU GUIDE,
March 14th, 1895.

DARUSSALTANAT
AND URDU GUIDE.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
March 20th, 1895.

SANSODHINI,
March 15th, 1895.

Tilottama was murdered within closed doors. Prompt information of the occurrence was given to the Deputy Magistrate, Ganganath Babu, who lives hard by. But instead of proceeding instantly to the spot he sent orders to the police to go there. A crowd gathered before the house. The murderer was yet within the room. But no one ventured to effect his entrance into the room from a fear of being himself wounded. As neither the police nor any Magistrate appeared on the spot, the crowd dispersed and the murderer effected his escape, and then the police came and made a great parade. Three days after the murder the police arrested Achhi Miya as the murderer; but the two assessors who tried the case considered the evidence produced by the police insufficient, and though the Judge has sentenced the accused to ten years' imprisonment, it is doubtful whether that sentence will be confirmed by the High Court.

If either of the two Deputy Magistrates who live hard by had proceeded to the spot immediately on the receipt of information of the murder, they could have arrested the murderer then and there with the help of the crowd, and would have also probably reached the spot in time to take the deposition of the dying woman. To make all possible efforts to arrest an offender is one of the duties of a Deputy Magistrate.

SUDHAKAR,
March 16th, 1895.

5. The *Sudhakar* of the 15th March writes as follows:—

By long residence in the same country and under the same rules Hindus and Musalmans have become, as it were, one people. We have always insisted that the closer the union between the two peoples the better for them both, and that ill-feeling between them cannot fail to lead to the degradation of both. The public, too, know this.

But it is quite within the power of either of the two peoples to bring about a rupture and thereby to bring both to the verge of ruin. Whichever among them does this must be reckoned an enemy of both. It is everybody's duty to dissuade such ill-advised party from their mischievous course. We do not mean that this party will include all the members of that particular people. There are among every people both judicious and injudicious men. It is the latter who, either from their excitable nature or with a view to enjoy a fun, do ill-advised things, which produce in the end most disastrous results. It is the duty of the judicious men in the community to keep these persons in check. When they neglect that duty it becomes necessary for the Government to interfere, and then various evils result.

In Lower Bengal quarrels between Hindus and Musalmans are very rare. What we have said above we have said by way of warning. We have received a letter from Faridpur which indicates a likelihood of the cessation of this good feeling between the two peoples. We give the letter below—

"Faridpur, in Eastern Bengal, is a famous district in which Musalmans form the bulk of the population. There is also a large number of Hindus in this district. For a long time the greatest cordiality and good feeling have existed between the two peoples. The Musalmans do not shrink from taking part in Hindu ceremonies, and the Hindus, too, do not fail to make rejoicings on the occasion of Musalman festivals. But this good feeling will not probably last much longer. A fire is about to be kindled in the country by the thoughtlessness of a number of imperfectly educated Hindu youths, and if prompt steps are not taken to put down this mischief, both the peoples will come to grief. A recollection of the things that have taken place at Bombay, Ballia, and Azamgarh fills us with fear.

"A man named * * * * is trying his best to prevent the sale of cows by the public to butchers in the hāts, bazars, and other public places, as well as the sale of beef by the latter, and is also doing his best to incite the Hindus to oppose such sale to the best of their power. He is also circulating a printed notice to this effect.

"Owing to this small quarrels have occurred at some places within a short time, and such quarrels are still taking place. Who shall say that our social and religious ceremonies will not be interfered with if this evil is not promptly put down? Who shall say that the Musalmans cannot, for the sake of their religion, get into a state of excitement similar to that which these men are seeking by means of such notices to create among the Hindus? If this notice is to be given

effect to, force will have to be used and affrays will become inevitable. It is not to be expected that the Musalmans, who are most scrupulous observers of the injunctions of their religion, will tamely submit to such interference with their religious practices. All this fills us with fear.

"Mr. Editor, you must draw the attention of the best men in the Hindu community to this matter, and request them to dissuade these fomenters of quarrels between the two peoples, and if they do not attend to the matter, you must draw the attention of Government to it."

Such is the letter we have received. We could not at first understand its contents and believe the statements made in it. In Lower Bengal there is the greatest cordiality between Hindus and Musalmans. Who is it then that is trying to kindle this fire here? We thought that this was but an unfounded rumour of a kind which is not at all uncommon. But when we received a copy of a hand-bill, we were utterly astonished. One passage in the hand-bill runs as follows:—

"Sir, if you stand against this most sinful practice and succeed in saving the life of even a single cow, God will be pleased with you. * * * * * You will oblige (me) by opposing this most sinful practice to the best of your ability."

This language is of a nature to excite the public. There would have been nothing to say if the writer had made his request in a humble spirit. We do not publish the writer's name, but he should have remembered that some have got into trouble by doing what he has done. Those who have had anything to do with this hand-bill have taken a most desperate step. We look upon this as an act of youthful thoughtlessness rather than as an act proceeding from purposed enmity. But even as it is, it is calculated to do harm. We hope that those who have issued the hand-bill will take warning from this exhortation of ours.

In conclusion, we request the Hindus of the Faridpur district, as well as the Hindu community in general, to take steps to prevent the committing of further mischief. Ignorant people are easily excited, and when they are once excited it is very difficult to check them. We wish that no place in Lower Bengal may become notorious for the fomenting of ill-feeling between Hindus and Musalmans. We hope that everybody will take this friendly exhortation of ours in good part, and we request Government to stop the mischief in the beginning.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

6. The *Charu Mihir* of the 12th March says that the operation of the rule, prohibiting the supply of court-fee stamps to the public by the Mymensingh Collectorate, except on Tuesdays and Fridays, is causing great inconvenience. The prohibition ought to have reference only to the *battadars*. As regards the general public, they should be allowed to buy court-fees every day.

CHARU MIHIR,
March 12th, 1895.

7. The *Mihir* of the 15th March says that the house in which the Begumganj Munsifi was located for 90 years having been destroyed by fire, that munsifi has been transferred to the Sadar. The reply given by Mr. Cotton to the Hon'ble Maulvi Serajul Islam's question relating to the transfer is not satisfactory. Mr. Cotton said that the present policy of Government is to transfer all munsifis to district or subdivisional head-quarters, and that Begumganj is not far off from Noakhali. The present policy of Government, if carried out, will be productive of great hardship in the districts of East Bengal, where roads remain under water for six months in the year, and people can hardly go from one house to another in the rainy season. There are also places which are one or two days' journey from the nearest district or subdivisional head-quarter. The inconvenience of poor tenants who may be sued against by zamindars will in such cases be very great, especially in the agricultural season. The present arrangement will therefore increase the oppression of the poor by the rich. It is not also easy to see why Government should refuse to keep the munsifi at Begumganj when the local public are ready to bear the cost of the construction of a new house for the munsifi.

MIHIR,
March 15th, 1895.

(d)—Education.

KASIPUR NIVASI,
March 12th, 1895.

8. The *Kasipur Nivasi* of the 12th March has learnt that, like the European Inspectors of Schools, Babu Dina Nath Sen, Acting Inspector of Schools, East Bengal, leaves those schools unvisited, which cannot be reached by means of big boats. Where then is the advantage of the people having a Bengali for their Inspector of Schools?

BHARAT MITRA,
March 14th, 1895.

9. The *Bhārat Mitra* of the 14th March says that the reading of Dr. Hunter's Indian History by Hindu youths has a very prejudicial effect on their religious faith. Government should put a stop to the publication of this book, just as it stopped the publication of Mr. Nesfield's books.

AL PUNCH,
March 14th, 1895.

10. *Al Punch* of the 14th March regrets the transfer of Maulvi Muhammad Ibrahim, Assistant Inspector of Schools, Bihar Circle, who, during his incumbency there, spared no pains to encourage the education of Muhammadans. He leaves Bihar while the fruit of his labours in that cause is still unripe. Will it fall to the lot of the Musalman community of Bihar to see their well-wisher again among them?

SAMAY,
March 15th, 1895.

11. The *Samay* of the 15th March thus continues its remarks about middle English and middle vernacular schools—
Subscriptions for these schools are realized with great difficulty, for 90 per cent. of the subscribers are irregular in the matter of payment. The collection of fees is also very irregular. This being the case, the teachers in these schools never get their salaries regularly. The Secretaries of many of these schools are also in the habit of taking their daily expenses from the school funds. The writer knew of a Secretary of a certain middle English school who used to be very angry with the teachers if on hat days he did not get any money from the school. The same thing can be said of 80 per cent. of the schools. As District Boards' grants to the schools amount to one-third of the expenditure actually incurred by them, the Secretaries of most of the schools fabricate a set of accounts with the object of making the expenditure incurred appear larger than it really is; and these false account sheets are presented to the Boards, while the true accounts are kept in the schools. The teachers are also made to aid in this work of deliberate fraud and perjury, for they have to sign their names against sums which are in excess of those they actually get as salaries. All this shows how dishonest and devoid of sense of duty the educated middle class people are. After all Lord Macaulay's estimate of the Bengali character is just and correct, and Bengalis are angry with him not for what he has said of them, but because he was keen-eyed enough to know so much about them within so short a time, and by dealing only with one Bengali. The writer's remarks about the Bengali character apply only to well-to-do middle class people, who form the Bengali nation and society.

SAMAY.

12. A correspondent of the same paper writes as follows regarding "Nutan Path," by Babu Chandra Nath Basu, in continuation of the criticism of the book noticed in paragraph 18 of the Report on Native Papers of the 16th February 1895:—

"The blood of vertebrate animals is red." Now "শোণিত" (blood) is always red. Indeed, the etymology of the word "শোণিত" makes this clear. Does not Babu Chandra Nath know this? Or is it that he has used the word with that disregard of its primary meaning with which people use such expressions as "কাল কালী" (black ink), "লাল কালী" (red ink), forgetting that "কালী" (ink) is primarily black? If he has, he must be admitted to have recognized the existence of white blood, green blood, and black blood, &c. We have, however, never seen blood of different colours. Will Babu Chandra Nath kindly tell us what the animals are which possess blood which is not red? He would have done well if instead of writing "the blood of vertebrate animals is red," and thus showing his ignorance of the Bengali language, he had said that "there is blood in the bodies of all vertebrate animals."

"Invertebrate animals."

"শায়ুক, চিংড়ি, কাঁকড়া, প্রভৃতি কতকগুলি প্রাণীর হাড় নাই। উহাদের শরীরের উপর এক একটি আবরণ থাকে; তাহাতেই ভিতরের কোমল অংশ রক্ষা পায়।"

In this extract “আবরণ থাকে” is not correct. “আবরণ আছে” would have been grammatically a more correct form. Again, why “এক একটি আবরণ”? The *chingri* has more shells than one. “The *chingri* has no spinal column. Therefore the *chingri* is not an animal of the fish tribe.” Is this statement meant to convey the idea that the existence of the spinal column in an animal is a proof of its belonging to the fish tribe? If that were the case, every vertebrate animal would be a fish. If this be not the writer’s meaning, the word “therefore” in the above sentence conveys no sense whatever. Again, after referring to snails, chingris, crabs, &c., the writer speaks only of the *chingri* as an animal which possesses no spinal column, and does not therefore belong to the fish tribe. Does he then mean to say that snails and crabs, though they do not possess the spinal column, are nevertheless animals which belong to the fish tribe? The fact is, according to the definition given by Babu Chandra Nath, it is difficult to say whether or no a particular animal belongs to the fish tribe. For our part and the teaching of “Nutan Path,” notwithstanding, we shall call the *chingri* a fish as we have done all along, and if, as Babu Chandra Nath says, every animal that possesses a spinal column is a fish, it is for our readers to judge whether they will eat all kinds of fish.

“তোমরা প্রজাপতি, মাছি, বিছা প্রভৃতি প্রাণী দেখিয়াছ। উহাদের শরীরে হাড় নাই, কেবল যেন কয়েকটি করিয়া গাঁইট আছে—যেন দুইটি তিনটি, চারিটি কি আর ও বেশী ক্ষুদ্র ক্ষুদ্র অংশ পরস্পর কজা দিয়া আঁটা। এই সকল প্রাণীকে গ্রহিল অর্থাৎ গাঁইট বিশিষ্ট প্রাণী কহে।”

“You have seen animals like butterflies, flies, centipedes, &c. There is no bone in their bodies, there being as it were only a certain number of joints—two, three, four or more small parts fastened and held together by hinges. These animals are called jointed animals.” In this extract the “&c.” is not necessary, and its use has rather obscured the meaning. It is not reasonable to expect that the readers of “Nutan Path” have all seen the animals which the writer intends to cover by his “&c.” Babu Chandra Nath only can say whether the animals which fall under the “&c.” have or have not any bones in their bodies. It would have been better if he had said—“You have seen boneless animals like butterflies, flies, centipedes, &c.” or “You have seen butterflies, flies, and centipedes.” Again, the use of the word “যেন” is open to objection. “যেন” is used only when there is some doubt or uncertainty as to what is predicated about a subject. The writer doubtless intended that “যেন” would be construed not with the “two, three, or four,” but with the words “joints” and “hinges.” It is unfortunate that his language does not convey his meaning. Again “আঁটা” is an adjective. What noun does it qualify? Here also is his language faulty.

(To be continued.)

13. The *Sansodhini* of the 15th March is sorry that the Chittagong District Board has awarded scholarships and medals to the two girls who have passed the lower primary examination from the Chittagong Girls’ Schools in preference to the girls who have passed from Satkania, Rajan, and other backward mufassal places, some of whom are said to have acquitted themselves better than the two girls who have passed from the town school. Is not this showing favour to an advanced place in preference to backward places which stand most in need of such encouragement? This action of the District Board is the more objectionable, as the two girls are residents of two such advanced places as Dacca and Faridpur.

SANSODHINI,
March 15th, 1895.

14. Continuing its remarks on the Annual Report of the Calcutta Madrassa (see W. R. for week ending 16th March 1895, paragraph 16), the *Mihir* of the 15th March writes as follows:—

MIHIR,
March 15th, 1895.

(4) If the proposed boarding-house in connection with the Madrassa is constructed, the rate of fee for lodging and boarding should be fixed very low, at not more than seven or eight rupees per month for each boarder. Otherwise the house will be available only to rich men’s sons, and the community at large will derive no benefit from it.

The writer, however, would suggest that instead of wasting money on such a boarding-house, for which there appears to be no pressing necessity, as the Madrassa has already accommodation for lodgers, the money raised by subscription and that granted by Government should be devoted to establishing branches of the Madrassa in different quarters of the city. This will give an impetus to Muhammadan education in Calcutta, and free Muhammadan boys from the necessity they are now under of reading in schools conducted by Hindus.

(5) The principle on which the night school in connection with the Madrassa is conducted has made it a failure. The guardians take no interest in it, as they have found it by experience to be of little use to their boys. The Principal's order that every Madrassa boy must attend the night school is not good.

The educational authorities are requested to make enquiries into the present system of education in the Calcutta Madrassa, with a view of reforming it, or the money which is spent on the institution will continue to be wasted.

SANJIVANI,
March 16th, 1895.

15. The *Sanjivani* of the 16th March notices the following anomalies in the English papers set at the last B.A. Examination:—

Anomalies in the English papers
set at the last B.A. Examination.

(1) Of the four prose works appointed for the pass course, namely, Burke's *Regicide Peace*, Morley's *Life of Burke*, Cowper's *Letters*, and Locke's *Conduct of the Understanding*, the largest, most difficult, and most important is Burke's *Regicide Peace*; but the examiner set from it questions carrying only 14 marks out of a total of 100 assigned to the paper. To the one only question from Morley's *Life of Burke*, the next most important book, were assigned only 7 marks. But 46 marks were allotted to questions from Locke, the least important of the four books, and 33 to questions from Cowper, a book which is fit to be read only in leisure hours.

(2) In the paper on poetry, although sufficient importance was attached to Shakespeare, justice was not done to Tennyson. The examiner allotted 30 marks to two questions from Milton's two short pieces, and only 16 marks to questions from Tennyson's poems, which were more numerous, important, and difficult. No question was set from a third piece of Milton's which was included in the course.

(3) In the Honour papers a larger number of questions were set from Burke, but considering the importance of the book, a still larger number should have been set. One question was set from that piece of Milton's which was left out in the pass papers, and 22 marks were allotted to it; but there were no questions from Milton's other two pieces. And only 12 marks were allotted to questions from Tennyson. In the last Honour paper of 100 total marks, 50 are allotted to composition, and the remaining 50 to questions from Earle's *Philology* and Shaw's *English Literature*. Though of these two books Shaw is the more important, only 7 marks were assigned to questions from it; whilst 43 were assigned to questions from the other book.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

BANKURA DARPAN,
March 16th, 1895.

16. A correspondent of the *Bankura Darpan* of the 16th March has the following about the Sonamukhi Municipality in the district of Bankura:—

The object of establishing a municipality at Sonamukhi was that with municipal aid the local Middle English might be converted into a high English School. Accordingly, under Atul Babu, a former Subdivisional Officer of Bankura, the school used to receive a monthly grant of Rs. 96 from the Municipal Fund; but in this year's budget the grant has been reduced to Rs. 30. The necessity of making a grant to the local charitable dispensary is the cause of the reduction of the school grant. But instead of reducing the school grant, the authorities should have found money for the dispensary by reducing the expenditure in the municipal establishment. The income of the municipality in 1886 was Rs. 3,000; its present income is Rs. 5,000. But this increase in its income has not resulted in any works of public utility being taken in hand. The two principal roads within the municipality have not been still repaired, and the arrangement for watering the streets is very defective. The outstill

on the north of the Burdwan-Bankura road has, by reason of the bad smell issuing from it, become a nuisance to the women who use that road for the purpose of bringing water, and as well as to the general public. Cannot the municipality have the outstill removed from the town?

17. The Kushtia correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 16th March, disapproves of the proposal to exclude wards Nos. 5, 6, and 7 of the Kushtia Municipality, in the Nadia district, from its jurisdiction, and complains of the high-handed conduct of the present official Chairman in assessing taxes, especially the latrine tax, at an exorbitant rate. If the latrine tax had been imposed after privies had been caused to be constructed in every house and arrangements had been made for their cleansing, the rate-payers would not have grumbled. But unfortunately the tax is being collected, though no such arrangement has up to the present time been made. Why, again, is the Chairman collecting a month's latrine-tax from the rate-payers of the wards which have been proposed to be excluded from the jurisdiction of the municipality? Last year Rs. 320 was granted for the repair of the roads in wards Nos. 5 and 6, but the amount yet remains undischarged. It is hoped Mr. Westmacott will direct his attention to the Kushtia Municipality.

SANJIVANI,
March 16th, 1895.

Proposed increase of municipal
taxation in Calcutta.

18. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 19th March has the following about the proposed increase of municipal taxation in Calcutta:—

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
March 19th, 1895.

The new Calcutta Municipal Act fixed the rate of assessment at 23 per cent. on the rental of houses, but the assurance was given at the time of the passing of the Act that in practice municipal assessment would not be made at this high rate. But since this assurance was given successive Chairmen of the Municipality attempted to increase the rate to the statutory limit, but failed through the opposition of the Commissioners. But this year the Chairman is determined to have the rate of assessment increased from 19½ to 23 per cent. The budget prepared by him shows a deficit of Rs. 6,29,251, and the proposed increased rate is meant to cover this deficit. Now, considering that even now house-property in the town is considerably overassessed to the great inconvenience of the rate-payers, an increase of the municipal taxation to the statutory limit will make their position simply intolerable. Babu Nalinbehari Sirkar, one of the Commissioners of the Municipality, has criticised the budget prepared by the Chairman, and shown that there will not only be a deficit but there will be a surplus of over Rs. 25,000. It is clear that the Chairman wanted to throw dust in the eyes of the Commissioners with the object of taking credit to himself by increasing the income of the Calcutta Municipality. And as Mr. Lee is not expected to return to India, this attempt of the official Chairman will, if successful, be of great service to him. The sahebs will not, for obvious reasons, object to any increase of assessment, so the native Commissioners will have to fight the battle of the rate-payers, although their opposition may be offensive to the Lieutenant Governor, who is in the habit of rebuking the municipalities which do not increase their rates.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including canals and Irrigation.*

19. The *Sanjivani* of the 16th March says that, according to a correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, one Surath Nath Ghosh, a surveyor in the office of Mr. Peddy, Assistant Engineer at the Dhanabad station on the East Indian Railway, has been dismissed from service, because, after his father's death, he appeared before his office master in the usual Hindu mourning dress. An appeal was made to the District Engineer at Assensole, but without effect.

SANJIVANI,
March 16th, 1895.

(h)—*General.*

20. The *Hitavadi* of the 15th March has the following:—

Bengalis in Under-Secretary-
ships.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee's question regarding the appointment of Bengalis to one of the Under-Secretaryships under Government has given the *Englishman* newspaper an opportunity for abusing them. According to the *Englishman*, though Bengalis are now being appointed to posts which

HITAVADI,
March 15th, 1895

were once held by men like Herschell, Eden, Forbes and Macaulay, yet they are not satisfied and instead of feeling grateful to Government they are pester- ing the Lieutenant-Governor for fresh concessions. Now, it is not easy to see why it should be considered improper or ungrateful for Bengalis either to wish for or to attempt to get posts which Government has promised them. The editor of the *Englishman* calls Bengalis ungrateful, and well he may, for he is himself so grateful for services done to him that, although it was the late pandit Ayodhyanath of Allahabad who brought him over from England on payment of a salary, he had not a word to say on the occasion of the pandit's death, which elicited regret even from the *Pioneer*. This is the man who has now taken upon himself the duty of teaching gratitude to Bengalis. The *Englishman* may rest assured that Bengalis are not ungrateful, and do not hope to get what is too high for them. They only ask for things which they are fit to receive, and which Government itself has promised them. And if it be disloyalty, discontent, and ingratitude on their part to ask for such things, they cannot help pleading guilty to the charge. In reply to Surendra Babu's question, Govern- ment said that special qualifications were necessary for discharging the duties of an Under-Secretary and that these qualifications were not found in a native. This is reassuring, for it means that Government will have no objection to appoint a native to an Under-Secretaryship, if a native is found to possess the necessary qualifications. But it is now the duty of Government to state clearly what the special qualifications for an Under-Secretaryship are, and how the possession thereof may be tested, so that would-be candidates for the post may set themselves to acquire those qualifications.

HITAVADI,
March 15th, 1895.

21. The same paper says that it is no wonder that the Hon'ble Mr. Dutt's independence in the expression of his opinions in the Bengal Council should bring him under the displeasure of the Lieutenant-Governor. Is there, after all, no mystery in Mr. Dutt's removal from the Burdwan Commissionership and the Hon'ble Mr. Bourdillon's appointment in his place? The writer does not know anything about Mr. Bourdillon's fitness or otherwise for the post, but this much is clear, that as a member of the Bengal Council he supported almost every word of what the Lieutenant-Governor said in the course of the discussion over the Bengal Municipal Bill. This endeared him to His Honour, who has now served a friend as well as got rid of an obnoxious official by appointing Mr. Bourdillon Officiating Commissioner of Burdwan.

HITAVADI.

22. The same paper refers to the interpellation in the Viceregal Council on the subject of the granting of official patronage to the *Punjab Patriot* newspaper and remarks as follows:—

It may be asked why, of all the Punjab papers, such insignificant ones as the *Punjab Patriot* and the *Haftabar* have been selected for official patronage. The reply is that they have been selected simply because Government knows from experience that it is impossible to shut by means of bribes, the mouths of independent and conscientious newspapers. Government once threw a bait to the *Som Prakash* newspaper, but the editor, the late Dwarkanath Vidyabhushan, did not swallow it. More recently a certain newspaper conducted in English was induced to sell itself to Government, but this act of treachery to its country has so affected its prestige and reduced the number of its subscribers so much that its present condition is a perfect picture of misery. Government ought to know that the papers whose mouths can be shut by means of bribes are not of sufficient importance to receive that sort of attention, but as it cannot realize this, it unduly increases by its patronage the importance of worthless papers.

SANJIVANI,
March 16th, 1895.

23. In reference to the question of the Government subsidy to the *Punjab Patriot*, the *Sanjivani* of the 16th March has the following:—

If in answer to Raja Rampal Singh's question in the Legislative Council of the North-Western Provinces, the Government of those provinces had given an intimation of its desire to discontinue the subsidy, the matter would have ended there, and would not have been dragged into the Supreme Council. But the Supreme Council, too, has not acted fairly in the matter. In answer to Mr. Mehta's question, the Government of India refused to interfere with the liberty of the Provincial Government to subscribe for any paper it liked. Are

the Provincial Governments, then, at perfect liberty in this respect? Can the Bengal Government, for instance, subscribe for 70 copies of an Australian paper? There are a good many papers conducted by natives in the North-Western Provinces to which the Government of those provinces could render help. But the reason why the *Punjab Patriot* is preferred to all others is that the former abuses the Congress and its followers and supports every action of Government. But now that Government's relation with that paper has been divulged, what benefit will the Government derive by continuing its subsidy? Everybody will henceforward know that the *Punjab Patriot* is the Government's slave, and will therefore attach little value to its writings in regard to Government and its actions. It is probable that after the recent disclosures, Government has really made up its mind to discontinue the subsidy; but it is not willing to make an admission to that effect, probably because such an admission is considered by it to be humiliating to its prestige.

The writer fails to explain the conduct of the Commissary-General at Rawalpindi, in ordering the publication of the advertisements of his department in the *Punjab Patriot*, whose whole circulation consists of the few copies taken by Government, and of a number of copies subscribed for by Boards and municipalities. The *Tribune* is a Punjab paper and has a wider circulation. Does the Commissary-General intend his advertisements to be published in the North-Western Provinces and not in the Punjab?

24. The same paper says that the posts in the Railway Postal Department, which were hitherto a monopoly of the natives are being gradually encroached upon by Europeans. In contravention of the Director-General's circular order issued in 1875, requiring none but natives to be employed as Postal Inspectors, Europeans are now being employed in those posts. For instance, one Mr. Buckner is the Postal Inspector of the Simla Division; one Mr. Curnelius holds a similar post; and one Mr. Browne is the Postal Inspector of Lahore town. The reason why it is necessary to appoint none but natives to these posts is that the Inspectors have to examine the diaries and accounts which are kept by post peons in the mufassal, and to explain to them and to postmasters, ignorant of English, the rules and orders of the department. If even these petty posts are encroached upon by Europeans, where will the natives get employment at all?

25. The *Dacca Gazette* of the 18th March strongly objects to the proposal to transfer the Chittagong Division to the jurisdiction of the Chief Commissioner of Assam, and to the construction of the proposed railway line between Chittagong and Assam, on the ground that it will lead to the social, political, and material degradation of Chittagong. The evils that will result are specified as follows:—

(1) The obstruction of water channels by the construction of the proposed railway line will make Chittagong a hot bed of malaria, black-fever, dengue, &c., like Nadia and Jessore.

(2) Chittagong will have to suffer from judicial vagaries, as there are no laws in Assam, and even if there be any, they are seldom observed. In Assam the revenue is still realized in the lawless fashion of the old Nabobs which produced the rent disturbances.

(3) By being separated from an advanced province like Bengal, Chittagong, which is called by Government itself the most backward division in Bengal, will lose its present advantages in the matter of educational progress.

(4) The proposed railway line will drain away agricultural produce and introduce English articles of luxury, and thereby bring want in the company of luxury in place of the rude plenty which now prevails in Chittagong.

The social and spiritual degradation of the people of Chittagong will be inevitable if their division is incorporated in a land of savages.

If it be indispensable to transfer Chittagong from Bengal for administrative convenience, Government should guard against the evils specified above by placing Chittagong under a separate Lieutenant-Governor, by providing it with a High Court as well as a University of its own, by providing grants for the spread of high education, and by making a rule that the people of Chittagong, even if ill-educated, shall be admitted into Government offices.

SANJIVANI,
March 16th, 1895.

DACCA GAZETTE,
March 18th, 1895.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
March 18th, 1895.

26. The *Hindi Bangavasi* of the 18th March complains of the increasing severity to which the people of Rosara, a small Bazar in Darbhanga, are being subjected in connection with the levy of the income-tax.

III—LEGISLATIVE.

CHARU MIHIR,
March 12th, 1895.

27. The *Charu Mihir* of the 12th March has the following:—
Effect of English legislation on the Indian intellect. The constant enactment of new laws by Government is calling into existence new forms of complaints every day, and is increasing the people's love for litigation. And as the cost of litigation has become very high, it ruins those who engage in it. But as Mr. Parvati Charan Roy has shown in the course of an article in the *India* newspaper, litigation, though it ruins the people, greatly benefits Government. The constant enactment of laws tends also to check the free development of the people's intellect. The Hindu and the Musalman ruled India for a long time and enacted laws for her people. But those laws were few in number, and related principally to social matters. The laws were made by the natives of the country, by men, that is, who knew all about it, and were inspired by that spirit of moderation which every patriotic Englishman can appreciate so well. Indian thought could never have received the full and free development it showed under her Hindu and Musalman rulers, if they had shown the same legislative activity as is being displayed by the British Government. For there can be no free development of thought where it is hampered by restrictions imposed by a multiplicity of laws. Thus the laws made by the British Government in India are affecting the pecuniary as well as the intellectual ruin of the people. Englishmen will appreciate this when they compare the laws of their own country with those which they enact here. History will one day declare that the miserable condition of Indians under British rule was due to the multiplicity of the enactments passed by their foreign rulers.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
March 12th, 1895.

28. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 12th March has the following about the Sanitary Drainage Bill.
The Sanitary Drainage Bill. According to the *Statesman* newspaper, the Bill chiefly aims at providing for the re-excavation of silted up rivers. Now, there are in the district of Burdwan only two large rivers—the Bhagirathi and the Damodar. Of these, the Damodar does not contain, except in the rainy season, water sufficient to supply other rivers when re-excavated, and to keep up a current in them; so that, when these rivers come to be re-excavated as proposed in the Bill, rain water will accumulate in them, and stagnating there will produce humidity of the soil and lead to malarial outbreaks like those which now occur in places where canals have been recently excavated. Again the work of re-excavation will be a very costly one. The excavation of the Eden Canal, which is only a few miles in length, cost six lakhs of rupees, and the re-excavation of silted up rivers is not likely to cost a smaller sum. The question then is, where is this money to come from? The imposition of a fresh tax for the purpose will greatly harden the lot of the people, who are already overburdened with taxation. People cannot surely live on water alone, and so it will not do for Government to supply their want in the matter of drinking water by multiplying their wants in other directions.

SAHACHAR,
March 13th, 1895.

29. The *Sahachar* of the 13th March has the following about the Award of Interest Bill.
The Award of Interest Bill. The Hon'ble Babu Mohini Mohan Roy's Bill will, if passed into law, do great good to the country. The majority of the Indian people are poor, and have often to meet their wants by borrowing. The raiyats are steeped in debt, and all their income even in years of bumper crops, is spent in paying interest on money borrowed in unfavourable years. As a consequence, they have to come to the money-lender for help even when their crops are standing on the fields. All this is to a great extent due to there being no law checking the growth of interest beyond a certain limit. As it is, there is nothing to prevent a money-lender from ruining a man by exacting from him the stipulated rate of interest, however high or exorbitant that may be, and innumerable families, once wealthy, have been ruined in this way. The

writer knows of a zamindar who took Rs. 250 as interest from a raiyat who had borrowed from him only Rs. 40. Go to whatever part of India you may, you will see the people in mortal dread of the money-lender. The Bill above referred to is therefore a move in the right direction, and may, if passed into law, lead in the course of time to the abolition of usury in this country. It proposes to provide that interest on any sum will never exceed that sum and this provision will prevent the money-lender from playing the waiting game, which he now plays so often to the ruin of the person who borrows his money.

30. The *Bagura Darpan* of the 15th March says that the Select Committee to which the Sanitary Drainage Bill was referred has stated in its report that the object of the Bill is not to drain away water from marshy lands, but to set free obstructed drains. The Bill is therefore imperfect, for stagnant water in marshy places is as much a cause of bad health as stagnant water in obstructed drains. It is true that a large outlay will be required if the marshes too have to be dewatered, but this additional expenditure should not be minded in the interest of the public health.

BAGURA DARPAN,
March 15th, 1895.

31. The *Sanjivani* of the 16th March has the following:—
The object of the Award of Interest Bill is no doubt good, but considering the explanation which has been put on the word 'interest' in the Bill, the proposed law will be of little service to debtors. For, so long as the creditor does not allow interest to accumulate, there will be nothing to prevent him from exacting interest at any rate he pleases.

SANJIVANI,
March 16th, 1895.

In the towns of Calcutta and Bombay, there is a practice in the law courts not to decree as interest an amount exceeding the principal. But nowhere else in India does a similar rule limiting the award of interest in suits for simple money-debts and mortgage-debts prevail. And the object of Babu Mohini Mohan's Bill is to remove this anomaly, and introduce a uniform system throughout the country. Babu Mohini Mohan said that if the sum of one thousand rupees was borrowed at 50 per cent. compound interest with yearly rests, it would swell to a lakh in eleven years, and it would be very strange if the courts were bound to decree such an enormous amount as interest. But how will the law proposed by Babu Mohini Mohan prevent the exaction of such an enormous amount as interest, where the sum of, say, ninety-nine thousand rupees has been already paid, and the suit is for the recovery of the remaining one thousand rupees only?

The law will not also benefit the raiyats who borrow small sums at exorbitant rates of interest from the money-lenders, and go on paying interest for years together, and in some cases even from generation to generation, because it is exceedingly difficult for poor raiyats to scrape together the few rupees required to pay off the principal.

In fact the Bill will benefit not those honest debtors who pay interest as soon as it becomes due, but only those dishonest debtors who will not pay off their debts, principle or interest, until sued for. Babu Mohini Mohan is therefore requested to amend his Bill so as to provide for the award of interest in no case exceeding the amount of the principal. If payments on account of interest have been made before the suit, such payments should be taken into consideration in awarding a decree; and if the total amount of such payments exceeds the amount of the principal, the excess payment should be credited to principal.

32. The *Bangavasi* of the 16th March says that the object of the Award of Interest Bill is no doubt good, but if the Bill is passed, the good feeling that now exists between money-lenders in the mufassal and their debtors will be destroyed. For the money-lenders will, as a matter of course, sue the debtor as soon as the interest will become nearly equal to the principal. Thus debtors will be harassed not only by the expenses of frequent law-suits, but by frequent sales of their property in execution of decrees. The number of Small Cause Court suits will thus greatly increase. In very many cases, too, debtors will be obliged, in order to avert a suit, to execute new bonds in which the total of the principal and interest due will be entered as the principal, and the poor debtors will be made to pay compound interest, not to speak of the repeated expenses for stamps and registration that they will have to incur.

BANGAVASI,
March 16th, 1895.

DARSAN,
March 17th, 1895.

33. The *Darsan* of the 17th March does not see why the Award of Interest Bill should not be applied as well to dealings in grain as to money debts. Babu Mohinimohan

Roy's argument for not applying the Bill to transactions of the former class is that the increment of 50 per cent., which it is usual for a borrower of grain to pay, is often no more than the difference in the prices of grain in the seasons of loan and repayment. This is true, but lenders of grain are not in many cases satisfied with this rate of increment, and it is notorious that the peasants in many villages are never able to repay their debts in grain. It is desirable that in the case of transactions in grain, too, definite provisions should be made about interest and repayment.

DACCA PRAKASH,
March 17th, 1895.

34. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 17th March does not think that the provision of the Award of Interest Bill will do good to the country. As in the majority of cases, those

who borrow money are men of small means; they cannot pay up their debts within a year or two from the date of the loan, and are obliged to pay interest for several years, and this, though it necessarily increases their liabilities, often saves their property from ruin. But if the new Bill is passed, the creditors will not wait until their debtors are in a position to pay; but will sue them for money before the time in which interest will become equal to principal is complete, and realize their dues by getting their property sold by auction in execution of money decrees. Debtors as a class may be benefited only by the fixing of a maximum rate of interest, say, 24 per cent. per annum, and by the abolition of compound interest, which is so ruinous to them.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

CHARU MIHIR,
March 12th, 1895.

35. The *Charu Mihir* of the 12th March thus reviews the one year of Lord Elgin's administration:—

The Indians thought that they would see in the beginning of Lord Elgin's administration a repetition of Lord Ripon's sympathetic policy. Though they never expected to see the independence of Manipur restored, they hoped that the Maharaja of Cashmere would, at any rate, be restored to full power; but this hope has not been realized. On the occasion of the imposition of the cotton duties, His Excellency tried to throw the responsibility of the measure on the Secretary of State; but the writer cannot believe that Englishmen of education and high descent, who come out to this country as its rulers, are mere puppets in the hands of the Secretary of State. By levying a countervailing excise on indigenous cotton goods, His Excellency has dealt a blow to the people which will be felt even by the poorest among them. The passing of the Police Act Amendment Bill and the resolution relating to the appointment of Bengalis in the higher grades of the police service are then referred to and condemned. Thus, the first year of Lord Elgin's administration has been a failure; and if the anti-native policy of the first year is developed in the course of the next four years, the people will be sorely troubled, and the exasperation caused by Lord Lansdowne's administration will become intensified.

SAHACHAR,
March 13th, 1895.

36. The *Sahachar* of the 13th March approves of Sir Antony MacDonnell's appointment to the Lieutenant Governorship of the North-Western Provinces, and thinks that there are not many men in the Civil Service who are as able as Sir Antony. The people of the North-Western Provinces should therefore thank their fortune that they have got such a man for their ruler. When Sir Antony takes charge of his new office, Sir Alexander Mackenzie will succeed him in the Viceregal Council, and he will become the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal after Sir Charles Elliott's retirement. So far as the writer's knowledge of Sir Alexander goes, Bengal will prosper under his Lieutenant-Governorship.

SUDHAKAR,
March 15th, 1895.

37. The *Sudhakar* of the 15th March has the following:—

The present situation of the Bengal Musalmans.

The traveller in the midst of a vast and dreary desert, where not one tree or shrub is to be described in any direction, and whose sands rendered hot as fire by the scorching rays of the midday sun are being blown about by rude

blasts; the passenger on board a ship on a tempestuous sea, which the roaring waves threaten every moment to engulf; the benighted traveller who has lost his way in a dense, dreary forest infested by wild beasts, such is the Bengal Musalman as he fares in these days.

Like the traveller in the desert we feel the intense agony of thirst, but can find nowhere the water which will enable us to quench that thirst. We do not know where to look for the national progress and the national education which will be a cooling drink to wet our parched throats. Who is to point out to us the way to that progress and that education? Alas! we are all too self-sufficing to follow anybody's lead.

Passengers on board a sinking ship, we have little hope of ever reaching the shore. How to cross this ocean of ignorance on which we are and to reach the shore of knowledge, and, landed there, how to unite with each other, heart to heart and soul to soul? Does our present condition, O reader, afford any hope of that blessed consummation? If you think it affords none, what steps, we ask, are you taking to avert your impending fate? Will you be always content to remain on this sea of ignorance? Look at the state of our education, at our poverty, at the condition of our beloved Maulvis, and look, above all, at the feeling of mutual hostility which prevails among us.

Benighted travellers in a dense, dreary forest, we are unable to make out the different points of the compass. We cannot help fearing that whatever may be the way we take we shall find no outlet at its end. The darker it grows the greater is our fear. Will this night then have no end? Will the light of the dawn then cheer us never more? Moslem brethren, will not even your perilous situation bring you to your senses? Time there is yet, so determine your course of action. Before you gasp out your lives oppressed by thirst on the sands of the desert, before you sink into the deep sea, before you drop down dead within the dark mazes of the dreary forest, look about you for once and try to realize what your wants are.

The Musalmans of the North-Western Provinces have shaken off their long sleep, and are trying to realize their situation and to fight the battle of life in right earnest. Their one aim is to improve their condition. Nor is Bombay idle. Why then is Bengal so idle and inactive?

We do not mean that you should hold meetings, deliver speeches, print placards, and circulate hand-bills. Blank shots do no good. You must drive your shot home. We must look first of all to our Maulvis. We must prepare a firm religious foundation. Nothing but the sharp incentive of religion can make us turn from our wrong courses. You must give up party feeling and sectarianism. Be all of one soul and one mind, and learn to run like a trained horse at the national beck.

You must begin with the foundation. Make arrangements for a proper education of our future hopes—the boys. Despise no longer the national religious books. Try to implant in the minds of your boys a truly national education. To do so you will need no model, no assistance from any man. In your own households prepare a firm foundation for your national progress. Direct your boys in the way they should go. But here is a darkness which may be mistaken for light. Do not plunge into that darkness, but try to shine in your own innate light.

38. The *Sanjivani* of the 16th March, has the following:—

The two Lieutenant-Governor-ships. Everybody hoped that after five years of oppressive rule Bengal would enjoy tranquillity under the administration of Sir Antony MacDonnell; but that hope has been disappointed, for Sir Antony has been appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces. The arrangement that would have met with universal approval was to give Sir Antony the *musnud* of Bengal, and to Sir Alexander Mackenzie the *musnud* of the North-Western Provinces. Bengal would have benefited greatly by such an arrangement.

SANJIVANI,
March 16th, 1895.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 23rd March 1895.

L. A. and others—Reg. No. 8852C—72—27.3.95.

